MODERN TIMES

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Court Overhauls Ct. School Funding

Modern Times Staff

On December 27, 1974, a Connecticut Superior Court Judge, Jay E. Rubinow, ruled that the state's method of financing public schools violated both the equal protection and education provisions of the State Constitution.

Over 75 percent of the 700 million dollars spent on education in Connecticut is raised by local property taxes. The other 25 percent is provided by a flat grant from the state government of $250 per public school student.

Uneven Distribution

The city of Greenwich, with a Grand List of over $1.5 billion (total value of taxable property), is provided with $170,000 worth of taxable property for each student in the public school system. The rural city of Chaplin in northern Connecticut, on the other hand, has less than $20,000 worth of taxable property for each school child. New Haven's school tax base is about $33,000 per student.

In order for New Haven to raise the same amount of money as Greenwich for its schools, the tax rate would be over five times as high. Right now, New Haven's property tax rate is about four times that of the city of Greenwich.

"Free Public" Education

The suit was filed on behalf of the students of the city of Canton, a suburb of Hartford. The "students" argued that the great differences in the tax monies available to different school districts did not live up to the constitutional requirement of the state to provide each child with "free public" education.

The Connecticut decision follows a series of court rulings (beginning with the Serronov Priest case in California in 1971) that challenged the use of regressive property taxes for funding public schools.

In 1973, the United States Supreme Court refused to invalidate the property tax method for financing education. The court, in a 5-4 decision ruled that the equal protection clause of the Federal Constitution could not be used because the Constitution did not mention education. (Such narrow interpretations of the U.S. Constitution provided over 50 years of "separate, but equal" education until the historic 1954 Supreme Court ruling.)

What Will Be Done

First, the state plans to appeal Judge Rubinow's decision to the State Supreme Court. In addition, the state government anticipated such a ruling and had already set up a "school-financing" commission with a funny name: Commission on School Finance and Equal Educational Opportunity.

The commission thus far has "promised no tax reforms." If the court decision holds, however, the state government cannot easily get away from equalizing educational funding throughout the state. The more wealthy towns probably will not tolerate a reduction in their educational programs to help pay for the poorer cities' education costs. Therefore, the state will have to come up with at least an additional $150 million for "minimal equalization."

What Can Be Done

Clearly, what is needed is an examination of both the quality and quantity of educational facilities throughout the state. A much richer educational experience for all Connecticut students is much more possible if cities do not con-

see OVERHAUL page 8

Nick Heyer

Important and expensive special education programs such as this bilingual class increase inner city education costs. For additional information on problems with school funding see SCHOOL NOTES on page 7.

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U.S. Economy Lays Egg; Workers Feel the Yoke

by Matt Borenstein
Modern Times Staff

As 1975 eases away the vestiges of 1974, 6.5 million Americans are unemployed—7% of the total workforce. Prices ended up 12% higher over the year(and are still rising) while real spendable take-home pay ended up 6.2% lower.

The myth that union demands for higher wages and benefits spin the "wage-price spiral" is no longer mentioned. In fact, since mid-1971, when Nixon began the phases of wage and "price"controls, wage settlements have been a moderating influence on the economy.

Until the controls program ran out on May 1, 1974, wage settlements hovered around the old Pay Board standard of 5.5%. Consequently, with prices(or profits)under no such restrictions, the average American worker ended up about $7/week worse off in what he could buy.

Wage Settlements Pick-up

In the closing months of 1974, many negotiated contracts in private industry called for 10 to 12 per cent first year increases coupled to cost-of-living escalator clauses. Workers in government employment have not fared nearly as well! Many unions, fearing new controls are pushing now for an early settlement of contracts.

In January, 1974, about four million workers in the private economy were covered by major contracts that provided for automatic wage adjustments tied to movements in the Consumer Price Index(Cost-of-living). By January, 1975, over six million workers were covered by such contract provisions. In 1974, because of the high rate of inflation, escalator increases often were more than the basic contract raises.

Last year, new contracts were negotiated in many of the country's basic industries: automobiles, communications, steel, coal, and clothing. (In the next issue of **Modern Times** , we will try to summarize some of these major labor agreements).

Contracts Move with Business Cycle

Over the past twenty five years, union contracts have moved with the cycle of the economy: cost-of-living contracts during inflation booms- and job security and unemployment benefits during recessionary periods. For example, in 1952, 3.5 million workers were covered by cost-of-living escalator clauses up from 800,000 two years earlier before the Korean War inflation. By 1955, cost-of-living coverage had dropped to 1.7 million as the country went through a recession.

The number of workers covered went up again to four million. But it then dropped off again as another recession hit the country. The railroad and electrical industries dropped these provisions in the

see LABOR'S page 7

Nick Heyer

For people who drive along James St. the Federal Paper Board Company is a familiar sight. Last month Federal Paper Board announced it was closing the James St. factory taking away more jobs from the city.

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eye on the board

600's Okayed for City Construction

by Andrew J. Esposito
Modern Times Staff

In many ways the Board of Aldermen's first meeting of 1975 was one of their most productive. In a lengthy session lasting about 5 hours the board discussed a wide range of proposals affecting the day to day operations of the city. However, the aldermen postponed discussion of the issue a majority of the crowd came to hear. They delayed their debate over Mayor Guida's Community Devel opment Act(CDA) funding plan until January 20.

Nick Heyer

The Board of Aldermen — can they handle any real power?

Aldermanic attendance, at the session, was excellent. Only three were absent. On the Republican side, Munsey Horwitz(R-30) was not in her seat for one of the few times during her tenure on the board. On the Democratic side, Jack Penders continued his record of lackluster attendance. Also failing to attend was James Claxton(D-19), one of the less visible aldermen even when he is present.

Athletic Facilities Approved

The board approved funds to build long needed athletic fields for Lee High School. The school has lacked sufficient recreational space since it was built in the early 60's. Construction can begin on the $125,000 project now that it has aldermanic approval.

In a related action, $450,000 was approved to build recreational fields on Mitchell Drive. These facilities will serve both Wilbur Cross and the new Hooker-State Street School.

Contracts for the work were signed by the Board of Education on Jan. 13. The Lee project will be built by the Edgewood Construction Company;while the Cross-Hooker job went to C.W. Blakeslee, Inc.

Truck Parking and Towing Charges

Also receiving aldermanic endorsement was a proposal offered by Fred Wilson (D-20) to ban commercial vehicles having a half-ton capacity or more from parking in residential areas. The aldermen spent several minutes debating the measures language, They finally exempted trucks parked while simultaneously preforming a service. After being amended, the measure passed by a vote of 26-0.

Next the board approved, by 19-8, a petition submitted by local Attorney Robert G. Oliver increasing city towing charges to $10. The former state legislator's petition sets a $3 a day storage fee for the first three days and a $5 per day from the fourth day on.

It would be interesting to know why Oliver offered his petition. And who ,if anyone, he was representing.

Positions Handed Out

In addition to the measures passed, the aldermen also took care of some internal business. They chose their representatives to the Board of Finance, Board of Park Commissioners, and the City Plan Commission.

The finace post went to party regular Joseph Carusone (D-24). He replaces John Daniels(D-26) who is considering challenging Mayor Guida in a primary next summer for the party's top spot.

Another party "regular", Alan DeLisle(D-12), was given the nod to remain on the park board. Appointed to the same body was George Longyear(R-16).

The lone non-regular nominated to a position was David Warren(D-2). He retained his seat on the City Plan Commission.

CDA Fight Postponed

The most interesting event of the evening didn't happen. The aldermen postponed any discussion of the Guida Administration's $17 million CDA package until Jan. 20. This occurred despite the combined efforts of Board President Vincent Mauro(D-3), Guida, and Democratic Town Chairman Arthur T. Barbieri to get the plan approved.

At the Jan. 20 meeting oppostion to Guida's proposal will come from Daniels, Frank Logue (D-18), James Jones (D-26) and Warren.

There is still time for New Haveners to submit proposals. Anyone having comments of their own to offer are urged to contact Jones, Logue, Warren or Daniels before Jan. 20.

Nurses' Job Risks Enough to Get you sick

By New Haven Occupational Health and Safety Project(NHOHSP)

As we all demand safe and healthful conditions on our jobs, we are looking more and more to nurses and doctors for help with these problems. But we usually fail to realize that medical workers themselves often face quite dangerous working conditions. Nurses in particular face serious hazards on the job.

Back injuries are probally the most common injury among nurses. One study comparing nurses and teachers showed that nurses had a much greater number of back injuries, particularly during their first year of work.

Another study showed that the nursing staff, which comprised less than half of the workers at the hospital, suffered two-thirds of the back injuries, The causes for such injuries include having to lift helpless patients and handling hospital equipment, especially beds, which are often not designed properly so nurses are forced then to lift in dangerous ways.

Skin Problems

Frequent immersion of the hands in water eventually produces degreasing of the skin, which increases a person's susceptibility to skin irritants, such as drugs or cosmetics. Even the wearing of certain rubber gloves or shoes can cause skin rashes.

Birth Defects

Because most nurses are women they face certain special problems. The rate of birth defects among babies to nurses was shown to be 1½ to 3 times that of babies born to other women . Nurses who worked with sick children including those babies with defects resulting from infections such as Rubella (German Measles), had the greatest risks. In these women about 18% of their infants had some deformity.

Blood Clots

According to several surveys of women who develop blood clots(thrombophlebitis), nurses represent an unusually high proportion of these cases. One study showed that nurses developed this disease with an annual rate of 9.4 cases per 1000 women, compared with only 0.3-0.7 cases per 1000 in all women. In particular, nurses were far more likely than other women to have blood clots in their lungs(pulmonary emboli), an often fatal condition.

Hazards in the Operating Room

Certain groups of nurses face especially high risks of health and safety problems on their jobs. Nurses and other medical personnel who work in operating rooms(O.R.'s) and who are exposed to anesthetic gases run a much greater risk of several diseases, including liver and kidney disease and certain cancers. Also, women who work in OR's have a much higher rate of miscarriage , and even greater proportion of babies with birth defects, than do other nurses.

The children of women OR workers are not the only ones effected. One study has shown that children born to wives of male anesthetists had a rate of birth defects that was 1¼ times greater than average.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is presently drafting recommendations for improving the environment of the OR. One probable recommendation is that all hospitals install air filtering systems in the OR to collect extra anesthetic gases.

Hazards in Kidney Units

All nurses and hospital personnel run special risks of catching certain infectious diseases, such as hepatitis and tuberculosis, from hospital patients. But nurses and other persons who work with blood and blood products, as in kidney dialtsis units, have a particularly high risk of developing hepatitis.

What can be Done About it?

In general, very few government standards relate to specific hazards which affect nurses. However, the general duty clause of the Occupational Safety and Health Act still requires that hospital and other employers make the work environment safe and healthful for every worker. Therefore, nurses have every right to bring haelth and safety problems to the attention of their employers, and to file complaints with the Labor Dept. if no action is taken.

But to really protect themselves on the job, nurses should learn as much as possible about the hazards which they face. They can form safety committees within their nursing associations and unions. Through these committees, they can begin to make demands to remedy some of the problems.

For example, some protection can be gained through contract language, such as clauses to protect pregnant women (see MODERN TIMES, May 15-31,1974). Pressure can be brought to change hospital procedures and equipment, for instance, in the disposal of contaminated needles or through installation of air filtering systems in the OR.

Nursing associations and unions can pressure NIOSH and the Labor Dept. to research and set standards on other hazards which have as yet received little recognition. One example is the physical and psychological stress caused by long periods of night work and rotating shifts.

Nurses can provide care for patients when the nurses themselves have healthy working conditions.
Just the way that cleaner kitchens which the workers of 1199 at Yale-New Haven Hospital demanded meant more hygienic food for patients.

Nurses who are interested in getting together to discuss health and safety hazards on their jobs should contact the New Haven Occupational Safety and Health Project,c/o Room 701, 265 Church St. New Haven, 06510.

Ray Millici

The on the job dangers for a nurse are close to the disaster level. Are we taking them for granted?

CPI Sneezes When City Hall Sniffles

In recent months two major issues have emerged in New Haven's anti-poverty activities. First is the so-called takeover of Community Progress, Inc. (CPI) by "city hall." Second, and more recent, is the attempt of the State Department of Community Affairs (DCA), under the direction of Susan Bennett, to circumvent CPI and give the anti-poverty funds directly to the neighborhood corporations.

Formed as the program for "human renewal" in the mid-1960's, CPI has long been well-funded and generally ineffective in combatting poverty. It was originally part of Mayor Lee's political machine and a national showcase program. It has provided countless patronage jobs over the years, many of them at the highest salary levels in the city.

The **Modern Times** *staff discussed the current situation with an employee of New Haven's anti-poverty program. Because of the job, the employee asked not to be named, but gave* **Modern Times** *a number of observations of the goings-on around the city which we have paraphrased below.*

Milton Brown and Reverend Edward Edmunds have been replaced in the leadership of CPI by Everett Shaw who, although only the Chairman of the Programs Operation Committee, has effective control over the agency. Shaw is the "city's man" who serves ruthlessly as administrator of most of the city's manpower programs.

There is no mystery to the acquistion of control over CPI. Milt Brown and Rev. Edmunds had good deals going for themselves and didn't want to rock the boat. That was the reason they ran into trouble with their own people. During the spring when the city was interested in taking more control in the agency, they made sure that their members went to all the Board of Directors meetings . Since the meetings were held between 4 and 5:00 pm on weekdays, city employees got paid for attending and were frequently in the majority.

CPI Used by City

The city benefits by having CPI around, so that elected officials don't have to take direct responsibility for social services in the community. If somebody has a problem and goes to the mayor, he just sends them over to CPI, and it's taken care of from the mayor's point of view. Also, the administration uses CPI as a source of patronage jobs.

So far it hasn't made much difference who is dividing up the money. There is always a lot going out, but people just aren't getting the services. It would be much more effective to rent a truck, put all the millions of dollars in one dollar bills, and drive through the neighborhoods giving them out.

The outcome of the struggle between CPI, the Neighborhood Corporations, and DCA director Susan Bennett is not going to make much difference to people in the neighborhoods. Earlier this year the city-wide Board of Directors of the neighborhood corporations was the only counterbalancing force to the city's control of anti-poverty programs. But, during the summer, Everett Shaw did them some favors, like expediting funds for the Neighborhood Youth Programs, so now they don't operate any differently from anybody else.

Corporations Waste Anger

The real evil of Neighborhood Corporations is that they defuse people's anger and drain their energy. If people organize about local issues, CPI either keeps their leaders in meetings until they lose touch with their membership and the issue fizzles, or the ignore the issue until the people give up hope of change. CPI doesn't even have a budget for any door to door organizing, so they don't have a tool to keep in touch with neighborhoods and pull the people together.

Unless neighborhood people call the shots, the business between DCA and the city might just as well be a political squabble between Republicans and Democrats. There are some good programs and ideas in New Haven that deserve attention. The Senior Citizen and Hot Meal programs fulfill very real needs and don't seem to have any institutional problems yet. Daycare centers exist, but most DCA centers need extensive work before they can provide quality daycare. Many other neighborhood people have ideas and projects that need help, but under the present system it's unlikely they'll ever get it.

days gone by
Buried Canal Stirred Treasure Dreams

by Ed Linehan
Modern Times Staff

Ever since the early 1800s, New Haven has been an industrial center. This began with Eli Whitney's gun factory and today has grown to include dozens of companies in the Greater New Haven area. An important factor in this growth has been a transportation system which provides easy movement of raw materials, products, and workers. A quick look at New Haven reveals that the city has developed various means of transportation. This includes a good harbor for shipping, large train yards, an airport, and of course a network of streets, local and interstate highways for trucks, buses, and the all-important automobile.

One of the earliest and most costly attempts at improving transportation in the area was the Farmington Canal. As early as 1820 people in New Haven began to speculate as to the advantages of a man-made water route north from the city. To understand the purpose of the canal more fully it should be remembered that New Haven and Hartford were challenging each other to become the economic center of the state. Hartford had the advantage of a more central location and the natural north-south waterway provided by the Connecticut River. However, New Haven had a slightly earlier start in developing industry, plus the best harbor in the state. This rivalry would continue for many years.

Canal Fever

Railroading had not yet been introduced. In New York state, the Erie Canal was begining to be constructed and promised to be very profitable, which it eventually was. The Erie Canal stimulated a kind of "canal fever" in New England and other areas. New Haven was no exception to this excitment. At first the idea of a canal from New Haven to Farmington, through Hamden, Cheshire, Southington, and other towns was seen as impossible. But in 1821 a committee including Eli Whitney and other prominent men was established to study the feasibility of the project. After the study was completed in 1822, the state legislature granted a charter which not only permitted the building of the canal as stated above, but extended it to the border of Massachusetts near the town of Granby, Connecticut.

Not one inch of canal had yet been dug but supporters of the canal in New Haven had corresponded with people in Massachusetts about a further extension. The idea now was to continue the canal north and have it join the Connecticut River at Northhampton, Mass. During the following year arrangements were made for this to happen. Now the plan was complete. The cost of the canal in Connecticut was estimated at $420,698.88.

Bad Omen

Work began on July 4, 1825, with a combination Canal and Independence Day celebration including parades and politicians making speeches. The ground breaking ceremonies were held in Granby with the governor of Connecticut digging the first shovel-full with a gold-plated spade. The spade broke in the governor's effort, and many feared that this was a bad omen for the canal's future. The omen proved to be accurate.

A series of problems developed almost immediately. The company had difficulty raising the funds needed to develop the canal. The city of New Haven did all it could to subsidize the construction. Hartford prevented the state government from lending any support. By the time the canal opened in 1828 the company was deeply in debt. Faulty construction caused expensive annual repairs. Floods caused further damage. The company never had a chance to regain its losses and to make a profit. By 1840 it was clear that the Farmington Canal Company was doomed. Railroading by this time was starting to grow and was proving to be a more practical means of transportation. In 1846 the canal received a new charter which permitted it to convert to railroading which sealed the end of the canal.

Nick Heyer

Unlearned Lessons

The Farmington Canal cannot be considered a total failure. It did open up and encourage development in the region through which it passes. In this sense the canal was of use to its community, but never a profit to its owners. Many came to the conclusion that an endeavor of this nature was of such importance to all the people that it should never have been attempted by private individuals and stockholders, but should have been government owned and operated for the public good. The lesson was not well-learned, and the railroads were also privately owned, but they did receive tremendous government support.

Today in New Haven there are no signs of the canal as a waterway. The canal bed is now dry and is a railroad as it has been for well over 100 years. This can be seen going under State and Orange Streets between Elm and Grove Streets downtown. Canal street near the Elm Haven Housing units receives its name as it once ran along side the canal in that section of town.

There are sections of the canal which still have water in them. The town of Cheshire has recently decided to turn one section into a park, complete with a canal house for controling one of the locks between different levels of the canal. There are plans to build a replica of a canal boat, which will operate in the park. Cheshire hopes to finish this in time to celebrate the United States bicentenial in 1976.

editorial

Tax Cuts A Loss to Working Class

A very few, short months ago, President Gerald Ford's idea of a solution to this country's economic mess was to raise taxes. Now, his "can't fail" plan is to cut our income taxes. This flip-flop government either does not know what to do or else it just doesn't dare do what is necessary.

The purpose of a tax cut, says the President, is to stimulate spending by consumers which will stimulate business which will, we are supposed to hope, stimulate jobs. If the president really believed that, the taxes would be cut only for those people who would be absolutely sure to spend the money saved from taxes. Those people are the basic working class families, middle and low income, etc. Every dollar they don't have to pay in taxes they have to spend on other things that they've let go too long already.

But the President's plan is not to cut only working class taxes. Oh no! Everybody's taxes are to be cut. The Rockefellers, Du Ponts, etc. will also pay less in taxes. But what will they do with the millions they no longer have to pay to the government?

They won't spend it. They already spend all they need and want. No, they will sock it away by buying gold or opening a secret bank account in Switzerland or buying a castle in Spain or maybe speculating in the stocks of sugar, gas and other companies that seem to be making "killings" these days. But they don't spend the saved taxes and so they do nothing to stimulate jobs.

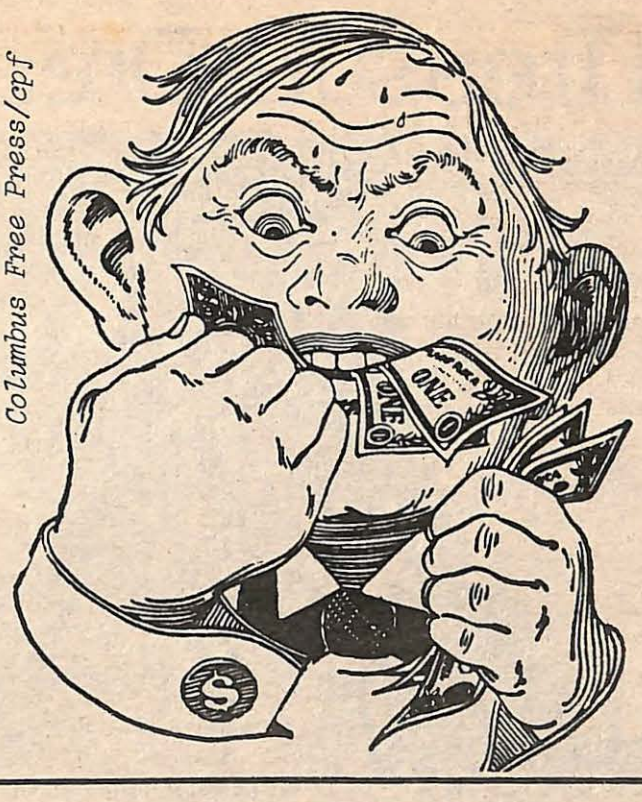
Cutting taxes for the rich is not only immoral, above all in a time when so many working class families are under special strains and hardships, it is also utterly useless to accomplish what this economy needs: more jobs and more production of needed goods and services.

Our government seems to have no qualms about playing a reverse Robin Hood role, robbing the poor to give to the rich. Oil depletion allowances, costplus contracts, tax loopholes and ofcourse, tax-free bonds are all ways the average working person pays extra so that the rich and super rich increase their wealth. However somehow it does not seem possible for Ford and Vice-president Rockefeller to give only the working middle and lower classes a break. That's unfair!

The tax plans now under discussion in Washington shows more than anything else how far the leaders of this nation are the servants of the rich.

'THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM'

New Foundation/LNS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MODERN TIMES welcomes all comments and letters to the editors.

MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on MODERN TIMES is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions from the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get this kind of news from profit-making commercial papers. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working men and women are told by them instead of their bosses. There is no place else where the problems of employment and education, and housing and health care are told by the people who have to live with them.

This is the richest country in the world. Yet most of the wealth is used only by a few. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. There would be no need to strike for paltry raises, waste our resources and labor on missiles and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need, not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the vested interests that run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care, and decent jobs.

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money talks

A Criminal Economy Breeds a Criminal Class

by Rick Wolff

For every crime committed in the country today, there are at least two "criminals" who must bear the blame. It would be clearly unfair to put all the blame and all the punishment on only one of the two "criminals." Yet that is what usually happens. It would be silly to devote all our efforts to stopping one of the two "criminals" while doing nothing about the other. Yet that is what usually happens. So the result is that crimes are not slowing down but, if anything, speeding up.

The two "criminals" that cause every crime are first, the people who actually do the robbery, the tax fraud, the rape, etc., and second, the economic system in America that plunges different people into economic desperation from time to time. The recent upsurge in crime, especially robberies, around New Haven is obviously pressure of inflation and unemployment that is putting folks up against the wall. To point the finger at the economy is just plain common sense. That does not excuse the other "criminal," the person who does the deed. After all, it is never fair to hurt or steal from another person, who may in fact face even worse circumstances than the "criminal."

No Action Against System

It is less important for us all to decide who deserves the greater blame: the criminal person or the criminal economy. It is more important for us to take steps to make all people safe from both criminals. Yet the political leaders of America and business leaders of America refuse to face these facts. Instead they waste time, lives and property, by seeing only one type of criminal, the person. They take steps against only that one: more police, more guns, more prisons, more patrol cars, etc. No wonder that crime grows despite all these measures, because they will do nothing against the criminal economic system.

No matter how many criminal persons are put away in thousands of jails, so long as this economic system forces some people to eat dogfood while others enjoy regular dinner orgies, forces some people to wor hard for $1.91 per hour while others col lect millions in dividend checks without working a day in their lives, and forces some people to pay taxes on the little they earn while big corporations pay nothing on what they earn - so long as such injustices continue, there will be criminals. After all, criminals are just those individuals, mostly from those groups in our economy who suffer its injustices most, who decide to try crime as some way out of their desperation.

New Politics Needed

So the unavoidable conclusion we must draw about crime is simply this: to take action against the criminal person without changing the criminal economic system has not in the past and will not in the future solve any crime problems. No politician is worth listening to who does not openly face this fact.

What is needed to solve crime is political leadership, probably a new political party, that openly and honestly declares itself to both take steps against criminal persons and against the criminal economic system that produces them. What is needed is new political leadership willing to face what the old Republicans, Democrats evade: the need to start at once making some basic changes in the conomy in the interests of the people, including widespread concern to combat crime.

review

Watergate Books Flood the Market

by Andrew Esposito
Modern Times Staff

All The President's Men *by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward*
Simon and Schuster $8.95
The Palace Guard *by Dan Rather and Gary Paul Gates*
Harper and Row $8.95

The scandal we call Watergate has given us two things: the downfall of Richard Nixon and his cohorts, and several books on the subject. Two of the more interesting books (**All The President's Men** and **The Palace Guard**) are really not about Watergate at all.

All The President's Men is written by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, the team of young **Washington Post** reporters whose work exposed the cover-up. **The Palace Guard** is the collaboration of two CBS newsmen, Dan Rather and Gary Paul Gates. These books approach the Watergate affair from very different perspectives. Each provides a part of the total picture. Taken together the parts paint a frightening picture of moral corruption in "high places".

Early Morning Phone Calls

All The President's Men is more valuable for what it says about events other than Watergate. For Woodward and Bernstein reveal no new facts about the scandal which brought down the Nixon Administration. They simply repeat those facts already reported in their newspaper articles. What is provided is a step-by-step handbook on investigative reporting.

From the phone call at 9 AM of June 17, 1972, ordering Woodward to cover a burglary at the Democratic National Headquarters, to the super secret informant called "Deep Throat", to valuable material received from former Haldeman aide Hugh Sloan, we follow the reporters as the story unfolds. And as Watergate evolves, we are treated to a glimpse (slightly self-serving) into the workings of a large prestigious newspaper- **The Washington Post**

At first the **Post's** editors and publishers were reluctant to go all out on the story. After all, they were thinking about taking on the President of the United States and the Establishment (which they usually defend). Yet, as the facts kept rolling in, the evidence forced them to go all out. For the **Post** people finally discovered what most working people had known for some time: Richard Nixon was, indeed, a crook.

Nixon's Staff

The Palace Guard is only tangentially about Watergate. Toward the end of their book Rather and Gates do discuss White House reaction to the disclosures of the scandal. However, the bulk of their work focuses on how the Nixon staff worked. In particular, they zero in on the chief Nixonian mandarins: Haldeman and Ehrlichman.

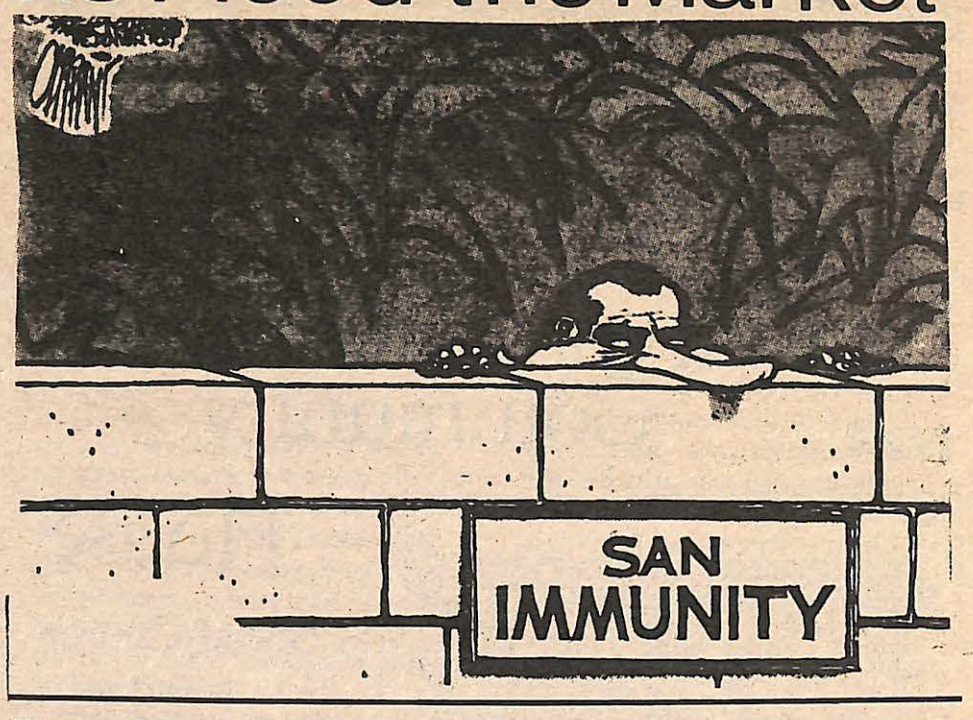
The rise of the twin pillars of what became known as the "Berlin Wall" is traced in detail. From their appointment as assistants with little power, to their reign at the pinnacle of the Washington bureaucracy, the arrogance of Haldeman and Ehrlichman springs from every page. Recounted are the numerous White House power struggles, as challenger after challenger is banished from the Nixon inner circle.

The central theme of **The Palace Guard** is that the Haldeman-Ehrlichman clique managed to isolate Nixon. Their mission was to protect the President, to manage his time, and to mold his staff in their image. The end-result of this "Presidential management" was disgrace for all.

True Losers

Haldeman, Ehrlichman, and their lackies stand convicted of criminal acts. Richard Nixon has been exiled. Yet, the big losers are the American people. It is they who suffered and continue to suffer because of the policies of the Nixon Administration. The rich and powerful served by "the palace guard" continue to live in splendor, providing high paying jobs for disgraced former government officials.

Thus, the Rather-Gates book misses the point. It's the system that produced Watergate. Not, as they would have us believe, a few corrupt Presidential guards. For people interested in an "instant history" of the Nixon White House, **The Palace Guard** is a good source. For those wanting to probe the origins of Watergate, you had better look elsewhere.



brass tacks

Auto Giants Plotted Mass Transit Wreck

by Mike F. Holodnak
Modern Times Staff

Why should giant corporations, run by a small group of human beings, be willing to reap so much havoc upon the public? Don't they like people?

It's quite possible that corporations may very well like people. The only trouble is, they like profits even more. And, since profits are what brought them into positions of power, they will do their utmost to maintain their power by continuing to make profits, no matter what the expense to the public.

One good example of this kind of acquisition of power, in the past 50 years, is the deliberate and calculated destruction of mass transit.

The Senate Anti-Trust Subcommittee report on American Ground Transit tells why:

"One trolley coach or bus can eliminate 35 automobiles; one streetcar, subway, or rapid transit vehicle can supplant 50 passanger cars; an inter-urban or railroad train can displace 1000 cars or a fleet of 150 cargo-laden trucks."

Corporations Destroy Mass Transit

According to Bradford Snell, the Subcommittee Report's author, by the mid-1920's, the auto market had become saturated, most new car sales were made to previous owners. Therefore, auto makers, especially GM, in collaboration with oil and tire interests, bought out efficient transportation systems, deliberately ran them down, then magnaminously tore them up. Thus, they assured themselves of many decades of profits by forcing the public to depend on the automobile for transportation.

Let's look at the automobile for a moment. In the September issue of *RAMPARTS*, Tom Zeman writes that "...over 90 percent of all automobile trips accounting for 55 percent of the total of automobile energy consumption, are short trips within an urban area -- trips that could usually be made more easily on a good public transit system. Over 60 percent of auto mileage involves going to and from work,...and other personal business -- all unpleasant, stop-and-go travel where the car gives poor mileage."

Autos Have Some Value

"There is one occassion on which the much maligned passenger automobile performs quite well -- vacation travel. Vacation driving is often a pleasure...to go where-ever you want, really matters -- as it does not in traveling to work or the store. Since there are an average of more than three people in the car on vacation trips, the automobile becomes a reasonably efficient mode of transportation.... But only one-tenth of one percent of all auto trips, and 2.5 percent of all auto mileage, is vacation travel....So it turns out that the great American romance with the automobile of the past quarter century has actually been less than 10 percent of the time. The rest of the time has been more or less agony."

Too Many Autos Harmful

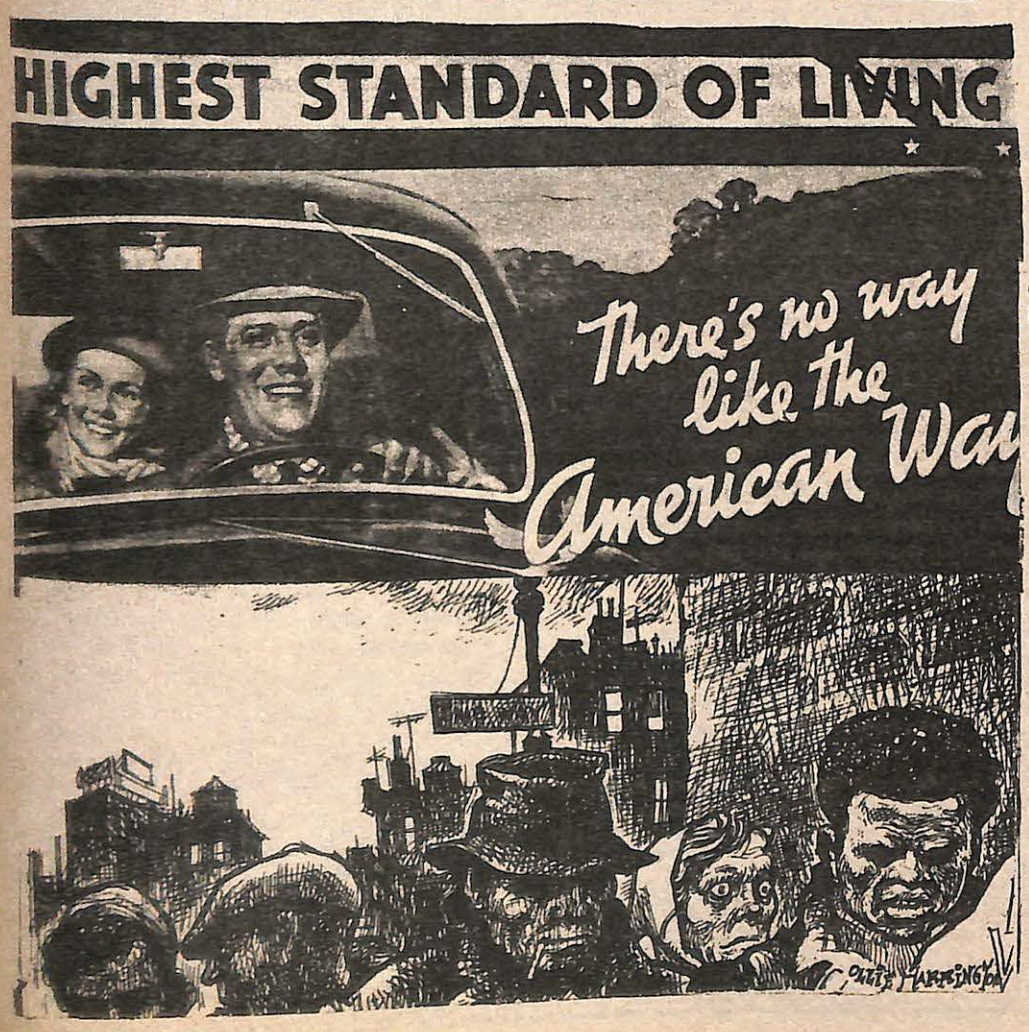
Forcing the public to depend on autos, in fact, was a lot more than mere agony. While the auto monopolists slobbered over their profits, cars slaughtered or maimed people on the highways by the millions, and the carnage is still continuing. A study by the National Academy of Science revealed that as many as 4,000 deaths and four million illness-related work day losses per year are due to auto air pollution.

Also there's the not-yet-estimated long range death rate that will almost certainly begin to manifest itself on a nation of people whose drinking water systems are yearly accumulating cancer-causing asbestos particles from friction wear of millions of auto brake linings.

Added to this is the tragedy of the many auto workers killed and maimed on speeded-up assembly lines buillding cars engineered for a short life span, and the enormous wastes of material resources and human labor that could have been put to far more constructive and beneficial uses. Auto workers and others could have been building top quality housing, mass transit systems and many other necessities that could have developed America's economy as well as her moral fiber.

We all know what we want: clean air, safe drinking water, full employment, a decent standard of living, and an opportunity to grow to our full potentials as human beings in a world that has a safe swift and diversified transportation system.

Under the current corporate dictatorship, however, we get unsafe highways, polluted air, and water, unemployment, a a rapidly deteriorating standard of living and traffic jams that are paralyzing to people as well as to their aspirations.



Dixwell "Q" House Offers Varied Program

by Delores Thomas

The Dixwell Community house is a center which was created in 1920 to bring together members of the minority communities in greater New Haven and to establish supportive relationships among them. Since its founding, the Dixwell Q-house, as it is called, has been a social force in New Haven.

The Q house is helping the black community to coalesce it strengths for self-help improvements. It has also brought people and resources into the community.

Why Was It Founded?

The Dixwell Q-house was founded by leaders of the black community and affluent members of the white community because blacks were not allowed to join the YMCA, YWCA, or the Boys' Club. It was incorporated in 1922 and opened in 1924 for primarily, though exclusively, black residents of the New Haven area.

At first the Q-house offered a variety of activities in sports, arts and crafts, and health care. It became a cultural, social and recreational center which provided black children with a wholesome environment, away from the poolrooms, clubs, and bars. It also served young working women who were just arriving from the South. They could receive counseling, guidance and supervision.

50 Years of Service

Over the past 50 years the Q-house has been many things to many people. The programs have touched on all areas of human emotional and physical renewal, as they relate to the city's black population, and the community in general.

It has been functioning as: 1. A Cultural center; 2. A Social Hall; 3. A Boy's Club; 4. A Center for Health Services; 5. A distribution center for information important to the well- being and uplifting of the black population; 6. A catalytic agent for documenting the need for public housing; 7. A liaison with law enforcement agencies; 8. An innovator of ways to meet changing needs of the growing inner city population; 9. Acrisis center for racial conflict and interracial problems. 10. A center for leadership development and training for city blacks.

In 1970 the Q-house moved to 197 Dixwell Ave. The new facility has enabled them to increase their services, especially to city-side groups. At present there are many additional agencies located there: Project Concern, Adult Basic Education, High School in the Community, and the Greater New Haven Inner City Day Care Center.

In celebration of their Golden Anniversary, the staff has selected the theme, "I am Somebody." There are planned activities which they expect will create a positive self-image in neighborhood youth. They will attempt to motivate and initiate personal, educational, cultural and social activities.

Program For All Ages

The Elementary Program is designated for youngsters between the age of 6 and 12. For people between the ages of 13 and 18, there is a Teen Program. In the future, the Q-house hopes to provide more family programming.

All programs are open to members of the Dixwell-Newhallville Area. Organized programs for the elementary group are from 3 - 5 P.M. They include game room activities, crafts, dance instruction, cooking and clubs. Social Teen Nights are held Monday and Wednesday nights between 7 and 10 P.M. Anyone interested in having more information should call 772-2665. We are also looking for volunteers to work with children in the afternoons.

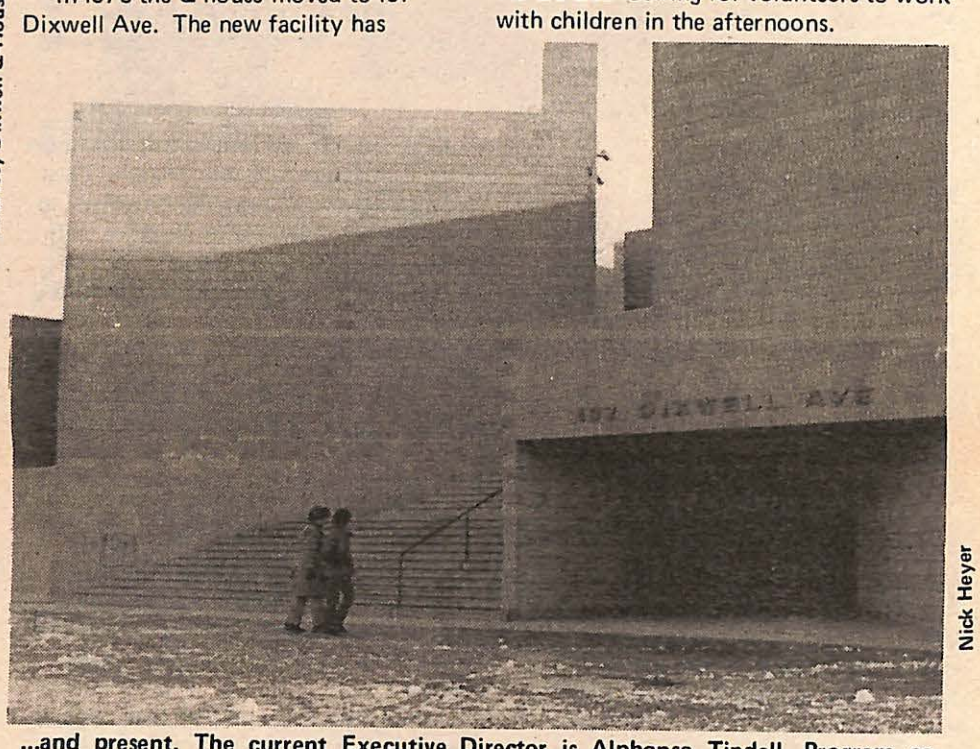
Dixwell Community House

1923

A Social Center To be Erected on Dixwell Avenue at the Head of Eaton Street to House a Non-Sectarian Social Service for the Colored People of New Haven

courtesy Dixwell Q-House

The Dixwell Community Center: past.....



Nick Heyer

...and present. The current Executive Director is Alphonso Tindell. Program coordinator and directors are Paulett Moore, Delores Thomas, Sam Allen and Alfredo Loquidies.

Clothing Workers Size-up Co-op for UNION

by The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America

The employees of the Yale Co-operative Corporation at 77 Broadway in New Haven have asked the store's managment and the Board of Directors to recognize their Union and begin collective bargaining at the earliest possible date.

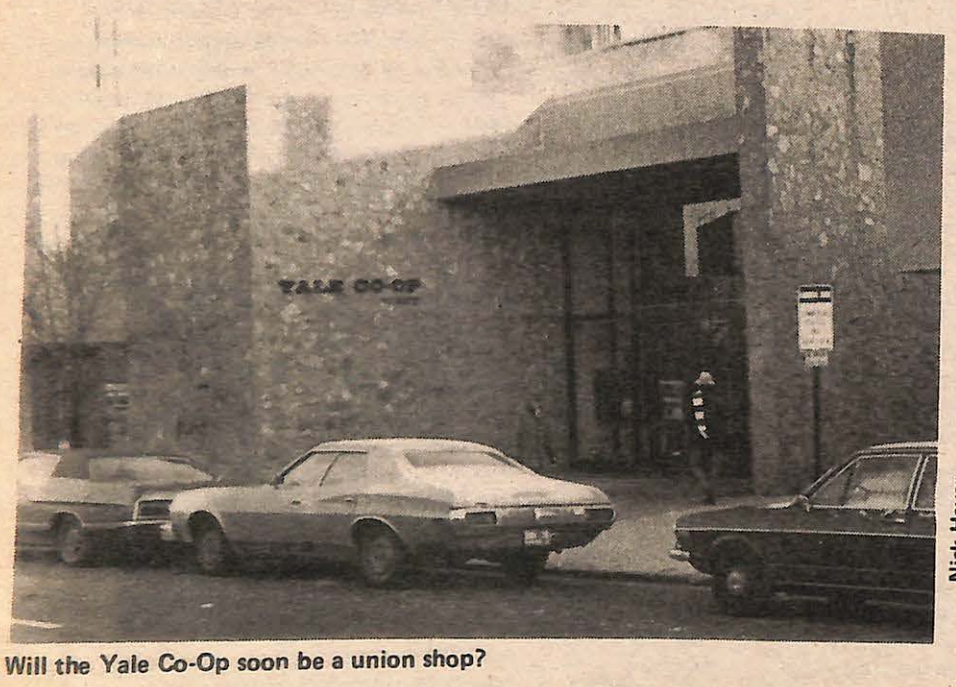
In a letter to Board Chairman Bruce Morrison and President Charles Willoughby, dated January 3, 1975, Author M. Goldberg, General Counsel of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, AFL-CIO, informed the Board of Directors that a majority of its employees had designated the Union as their exclusive bargaining representative. The Union offered to prove its majority in the appropriate bargaining unit by a card check conducted by an impartial third party.

Rights Demanded

A committee of employees contacted the ACWA two months ago and asked the Union to help them organize, to improve their wages, hours, benefits and working conditions. They also felt that, since it is a Co-operative store, the employees should have an effective voice in determining the policies which affect their jobs. Committee members have, with the help of the ACWA, discussed the Union with fellow employees, and a large majority of the workers have signed Union authorization cards.

Many signed cards despite management threats that they would lose their jobs or face discrimination. "We have tried to combat this climate of fear," said Larry Magarik, National Representative of the ACWA, "by informing employees of their legal rights to join form or assist their Union, and by promising Yale Co-op workers any legal support that is necessary to secure their rights."

The employees plan a meeting on Monday, January 20. They hope to have set up the procedures for a card check by that time, and to begin negotiations as soon as would be convenient for the Board of Directors.



Nick Heyer

Will the Yale Co-Op soon be a union shop?

Community Calendar

Mon. Jan. 20 — **M.A. in Open Education or Certificate of Advanced Study.** Fairfield University has a program allowing 15 out of 32 credits to be earned at off campus teaching centers. The Teacher Center is offering two courses, The Role of Teaching (Mondays 4-5:45) and Introduction to Movement (Mondays 6-9), under this plan. They are each 3 credit courses and start January 27th. Registration is January 20th, 4-6, at the Teacher Center. Tuition is $165 per course (½ cost for auditing). For info contact the Teacher Center, 776-5987

Wed. Jan 22 — **Public Hearing- Permanent Commission on the Status of Women.** Women who experienced discrimination, especially concerning employment, child care or health problems, are invited to testify. Public is invited. 7-10PM at the YWCA, 43 Howe St. For information call the YWCA- 865-5171.

Sun. Jan. 26 — **Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW)** will hold its second introductory meeting at 4pm at the Labor Temple, 45 Water st. New Haven.

Fri. Jan. 31 — **Northern Ireland- "A Time to Talk and a Time to Think."** The speaker for the next meeting of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) will be Margaret D. McCarter, Mass. state chairperson and a delegate to Northern Ireland sent by the WILPF International Congress. The meeting will be at the Undercroft of the United Church on the Green, Temple and Elm, at 8PM. Discussion and refreshments. Contribution $1.

Until Jan. 20 — **Drawings and Prints by Ruth Resnick.** Being shown at the Donald Mitchell Library on Harrison St.

Until Feb.28 — **Rotating Exhibit and Gallery Space.** The Arts Council of Greater New Haven, Inc. has opened a gallery at the renovated McLagen Foundry at 33 Whitney Av. The current show features: Prints by Anna Audette and Flo Hetcher. Until February 28.

Every Week — **At the Women's Center.** Sundays at 2:30 Divorce and Seperation Rap Groups; Mondays at 5:30 Women's Self Defense and at 8:00 Lesbian Rap Group; Tuesdays at 8:00 Open Rap Group; Thursdays at 8:00 Women vs. Conn. and Abortion Referral Project Groups; Fridays from 3:30-5:30 Walk-In Counseling Service for Women. Visit or call the Women's Center, 415 Park St. 436-0272.

school notes

Will Equal Funding Mean Equal Quality

by Ruth Hein
Modern Times Staff

The Connecticut Superior Court has finally ruled that the state's current method of financing public education violates the constitution. The towns and localities now bear almost the entire burden of rasing funds, and the property tax is their only resource. What makes the system inequitable, in the judgement of the court, is the difference in the amount of taxable property as well as the level of taxation(mill rate)that can reasonably be levied.

Greenwich, for example, has more then $170,000 worth of taxable property for each pupil, while Canton(where the suit was brought)has only $38,000.

Some Grants In Effect

Some supplemental state grants are in effect now, particularly an across-the-board $250 allottment per pupil per year and programs in special education. In addition, federal funds are frequently channeled into education. But the primary responsibility remains, for school financing, limited to the particular tax base.

The judgement is not unexpected. For two years a state legislative commission has been planning ways to satisfy the anticipated ruling. One proposal suggests replacing the flat allottment with a sliding scale bringing each town's tax base to a uniform level. For example, if the base is set at $1 and a town collects 40 cents per pupil, the state will add 60 cents (Whether towns that collect more than $1 should return the overage to the state is an open question still).

Objections Raised

While this proposal seems eminently fair(it is built on the analogy of a minimum- income policy)several objections have been raised. It has been suggested that such supplemnets would rob a city of the incentive to widen its tax base by soliciting additional industry and would thus result in further urban decay and unemployment. But since tax revenues are used for more than schools, this argument seems fairly weightless.

Will Equal Needs be Met?

A further question about such equalization is whether it pays sufficient attention to unequal needs in different communities. "Equal" education does not always mean education that costs the same. Thus, in a small, stable community, a homogeneous school system with good teachers, well-kept buildings, and adequate supplies can be first rate. An urban, industrial system, on the other hand, has a great deal of pupil turnover(in New Haven it amounts to about 50 per cent a year), and students often require compensatory bilingual education before they can enter the main stream. Such readjustment programs put a great strain on a school budget. If, then, Bridgeport or New Haven end up with the same dollars per pupil as, say, Wilton or GreensFarms, the equality aimed at by the court has not been really acieved.

The Biggest Problem is Money

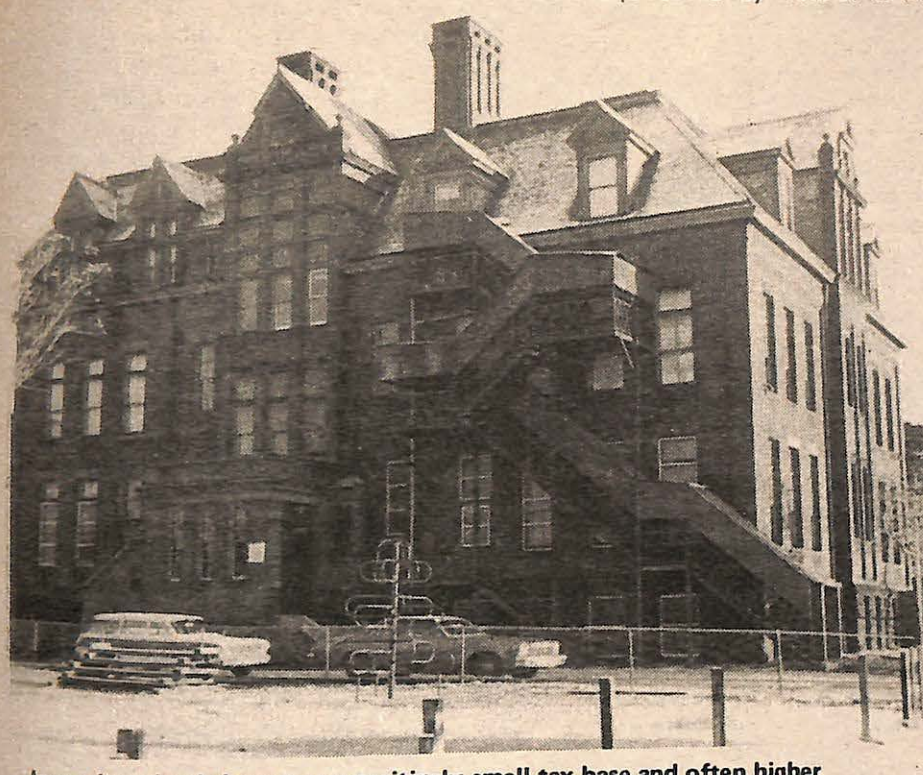
But the most serious obstacle to this or any other plan is the very simple fact that it requires money—lots of it. The present flat-grant system costs the state $162 million annually. To insure that all education come up to even a median level would require $13 million more. The legislative commission has therefore recommended that an education equalization program be instituted gradually and caustiously, with a "revamping" of the existing state tax structure. The unspoken words here are **income tax**—the only feasible method of increasing state income.

And while many of us publicly and some legislatures privately concede that an income tax is both desirable and equitable, passing it into law in Connecticut is quite another matter. Connecticut boasts the wealthiest population in the United States, a really gusty income tax would drive the inhabiatnts of Fairfield off to greener pastures, a loss the state cannot afford.

Regionalization, at one time the most promising suggestion, is pretty much in abeyance now as affluent suburbs are increasingly pulling in their horns. Populations have been voting down bond issues for their own towns;they are not likely to feel more generous if they were asked to share their wealth with the troublesome adjacent city.

Ruling Legal Fiction

The ruling, then, is at present not much more than a legal fiction. How ineffectual it is can be seen from the example of New Jersey. There the courts handed down a similar ruling several years ago. Ever since, the legislatures have debated and rejected various revenue plans (including a state income tax and legalized gambling), and the New Jersey schools are still operating under the unconstitutional system—as will Connecticut schools for the foreseeable future.



Nick Heyer

Inner city schools have a comparitively small tax base and often higher operating costs.

Labor's Yoke Tightens

continued from page 1

late 1950's as workers were willing to divert their aim from wage increases to supplementary benefits to cushion layoffs or reducing worker hours. In addition, the 1960 steel settlement was the first time limits had been set on escalation.

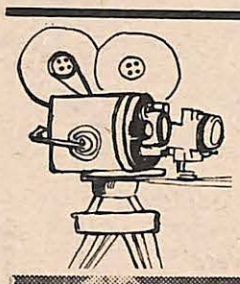
Right now, it will be hard for unions to trade cost-of-living clauses for no-layoff clauses. Strong stands will have to be taken to hold both wages and employment levels up. The current mass layoffs in the auto-industry show that corporations much prefer to give good wage settlements to strong job protection. They can more than make up the difference in layoffs.

Unemployment: National Policy

President Gerald Ford might leave the unions alone this year and let the threat of higher and higher unemployment keep wage demands down out of fear. The government policies of sacrificing jobs to fight inflation has of yet been successful in bringing prices under control.

The outlook for the coming bargaining year is bleak unless negotiations can break out of the business cycle bartering of the past twenty five years. Cost-of-living and job security must be held to solidify if unionized workers are to make any gains in the coming year.

Next Issue: A look at some of the major contracts in the past year.



review

Reel to Reel Violence

by Rachel Ponds
Modern Times Staff

If **Freebie and the Bean** is above all...a love story, as it is billed, then Rod McKuen better trade in his sneakers and flowers for a pair of engineer boots and an iron maiden. Love, according to this movie, is caring enough to rip out your best friend's eyes, or volunteering to beat up his wife when it's suspected that she's been cheating on him.

There is very little plot in this cops and hoods tale, just enough to hold together the violence, of which there is plenty, and to which we the audience are expected to react with laughter, or at least a nervous twitter. The movie succeeds in making us laugh, and that's a most unfortunate result.

Our laughter masks the fact that we are watching chase scenes in which half the population of San Francisco is killed or maimed, and where all those cars built to last three years reach a premature obsolescence. We condone violent, vengeful behavior because it is disguised in scenes straight out of the Saturday afternoon demolition derby. We accept brutal murders because they are performed by two joke-cracking, "madcap", anti-hero cops.

But underneath this raucus, "good-time" there is a terrifying statement about the condition of our society.

Over Done Theme

Drawing from the popularity of **The Godfather** and Watergate, **Freebie and the Bean** takes advantage of the recent deluge of violence and corruption in America, dresses it up with slapstick, and feeds it to the audience as a glorious given. The message is if you can get away with it, do it!

Freebie and the Bean is an exercise in bad taste. Murder, destruction of property, extortion and strongarming are portrayed as admirable activities for super-macho cops James Caan (Freebie) and Alan Arkin(the Bean). On top of this, the high school locker room antics between Freebie and the Bean are foisted on us as being acts of affection. The love tap has grown up to the love punch for the perennial jocks.

Unlike other movies that present violence as humorous, for instance, **Catch 22, Freebie and the Bean** is not satire. There is no moral, or morality. Nor is there any indication that what we are watching and laughing at is not commendable, but despicable behavior. Caan and Arkin are not Yosarians caught up in a situation out of their control. They are G. Gordon Liddys, proud of their amorality.

Unless you rooted for the Watergate burglars, don't waste your money on this movie.

on the job

Doctor's Aide Finds Fruitful Role

By Anne Richardson
and Nicholas Heyer

I am a Physician's Associate(PA) at the Community Health Care Center Plan (CHCP). I became a PA because I enjoy both medicine and working with people. I was trained at the PA program affiliated with Yale Medical School and graduated last September. Three of us were hired by CHCP this fall.

The concept of Physician's Associate or Assistant is an offshoot of the Viet Nam War. Medical corpsmen could not use their training when they returned home and their experience was wasted. Dr. Eugene Slead of Duke University set up the first PA program aimed at providing Medics with training that would allow them to deliver medical care. There are now a wide variety of programs with variable prerequisites for admission and variable program lengths. Medical experience is often more important than a college degree for admission. At Yale, however, most participants have their BA's.

Thorough Training

My training at Yale lasted 24 months. It included nine months of classroom study and 15 months of clinical work. The clinical work consisted of five week "rotations" spent doing practical work in areas such as pediatrics, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, cardiology, medicine, and orthopedics. Often we were training alongside the medical students and we shared several courses with them. Yale is classified by the American Medical Association as a class A program because of its length and its association with a medical school. There are also class B programs in specialty areas and less intensive class C programs.

The role of the PA in the medical structure is still not well defined. The physicians that I work for are legally responsible for my actions and thus they determine my responsibilities. At CHCP we are organized into medical teams. I am not aware of any other medical center that is organized in this way. Our medical teams usually consist of two doctors, a PA, a psychiatric nurse or social worker, and two medical assistants. My team is larger having a third doctor and a nurse clinician.

Improved Medical Care

Our goal with the team system is to improve medical care. We hope that enrollees in the plan will learn to associate with one team. In this way the team will know the patient. When a problem crops up, we will not be strangers to the patient, and he or she will not be a stranger to us. It is often impossible to see the same doctor on urgent visits to the center, but if a member of the team can see the patient, then we have some continuity of care because the team works closely together. We meet each week to present cases, discuss problems and make referrals.

My daily schedule is very different from the doctors'. They see patients with prior appointments throughout the day. I try not to schedule patients between 9 and 11 AM so that I may handle the many phone calls that come in to our team. Non-urgent appointments for the doctors are scheduled at the appointment desk. I handle all of the other calls that come in. If you have a problem that cannot wait for a scheduled doctor's appointment, you should try to call me between 9 and 11 AM. After 11 AM I start seeing both prescheduled patients and urgent visits scheduled from the phone calls.

I am trained to diagnose and to treat most common ailments. These make up approximately 80% of all complaints, I I have also been exposed to uncommon problems in my training, which helps me detect anything out of the ordinary. Whenever I find something unusual or have a question, I call on the physician for guidance. I also have a psychiatric nurse on my team available for consultation or referral.

Nick Heyer

Anne Richardson in her office at CHCP.

My Own Patients

One of the most rewarding aspects of my work is having my own patients. When I see people on urgent visits I sometimes discover problems that need to be followed. I then may continue to see them on a scheduled basis. In this way I have a more personal contact with my patients and I get important feedback on my treatment program.

A hard and at times frustrating aspect of my job is the lack of confidence many people have in me because I am not a doctor. Often my word is not good enough, even in the case of a common cold. With time and patient education I am confident that some of these prejudices will change. I am comforted now by the many patients who feel freer to talk to me then they do to the doctor. I can answer many of the questions they thought were too "stupid" to ask the doctor and I can usually take more time with them. If I do not have time, I try to reschedule a patient for a more relaxed appointment.

Scheduling

Scheduling can be a real problem. The biggest problem is returning the many calls my team gets during the day. Often a call will not be returned for several hours hours, but if it looks at all urgent, we try to get to it right away. Urgent visits or same day appointments are unpredictable and they often crowd my schedule. This is particularly true now during cold season.

Most of our patients are working people and with the poor economy they cannot stay home and rest the way they should when they have a cold. There is no cure for the common cold but people come in anyway to get medicines for symptoms. By giving them medicine, we reinforce a bad habit, because if everyone with a cold came to the center, we would have no time to take care of really sick people. Of course there are exceptions.

I enjoy my work as a Physicians Associate. I am working with people and I hope that at times I help them. I am gaining confidence and knowledge and my education will continue as I work. I am presently helping my colleagues organize a day of continuing education at CHCP. We will invite PAs from all New England to attend. In the future, I may work in a rural area where medical care is badly needed. For the present, however, I am happy here. CHCP is a progressive organization and I enjoy being a part of it.

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Court Orders Overhaul

continued from page 1

tinue to hoard equipment, educational innovation and experienced staff.

The main thing that has been overlooked in the equalization of school financing is the equalization of the tax burden. "School financing reform" and "no tax reform" were big campaign issues for Ella Grasso. Yet she never confronted the contradiction in that position not even after the Superior Court decision.

Burden on Worker

The present state tax system allows a corporation executive living in Greenwich to earn $100,000 a year, own $500,000 in stocks and bonds, own a $100,000 house and pay property tax at the rate of 22 mills and sales tax at 6 percent. At the same time, a worker in New Haven who earns $11,000 a year, owns a $30,000 house (with a mortgage), owns no stocks and bonds, pays a property tax of 82.2 mills and 6 percent sales tax.

The choice that will face the state assembly over the next six months will be whether to keep the same tax structure and raise the sales tax back to 7 or 7½ percent to achieve "court ordered" financing equalization or to give us a system where the Greenwich executive pays his fair share and the New Haven worker gets his fair share.

Nationwide Trend

At least a dozen states, including Maine, Flordia and Minnesota have already modified their systems of school financing, and court cases are pending in three-dozen others.

In New Jersey, the state court has required that the legislature come up with a system that would provide a *qualified* education to all students. The New Jersey constitution mandates a "thorough and efficient" education for every child.

In future issues of **Modern Times** we hope to publish interviews with your state senators and assemblymen to see what proposals they have to get us better education and tax systems.